

### **III. Remarks/Arguments**

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in light of the amendments above and the following remarks. Claims 3-10 were previously pending in this application. By the present Amendment, the Applicants have canceled claim 8 and amended claim 10 into independent form. Accordingly, claims 3-7, 9 and 10 remain pending in this application, of which claim 10 is the sole independent claim.

#### ***A. Discussion of Claes Reference***

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 USC § 102 as allegedly being anticipated by WO 98/20802 to Claes et al. However, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as the Claes reference fails to disclose or suggest the use of clamp screws to lock the worm gears in place. More specifically, the Office Action incorrectly points to elements 25 and 27 as disclosing the claimed clamp screws. However, Claes teaches that elements 25 and 27 are in fact worm gears, which are used to move the first and second portions about rotational axes:

The gear drive units 25 and 27 in the form of worm gears engage in the respective gear rims 28, thus providing the ability to move the swivel-type rotary components 11 and 12 around the Ry and Rz axes.

Col. 4, lines 4-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,428,540, which is an English-language counterpart to the cited Claes reference. Accordingly, amended claim 10 is patentably distinct in view of the Claes reference. As claims 3-7 and 9 depend from and further limit independent claim 10, these claims can also be considered to be patentably distinct from the Claes reference.

#### ***B. Conclusion***

A check is enclosed to accommodate the fees for the three-month extension of time. If any additional fees are required to complete this filing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 13-0480, Attorney Docket No. 24179785.010026US.

Attorney Docket No.  
24179785.010026US

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Amendment and Response to Non-Final Office Action or the Application in general, Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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